



# CITY OF CHICOPEE

## MAYOR MICHAEL D. BISSONNETTE

### **MassDevelopment releases an additional \$400,000 in Brownfield Redevelopment Funds**

*\$400,000 in approved funds from the Brownfields Redevelopment Grant Program will allow for continued environmental testing and planning for cleanup activities on the former Facemate site as well as review and oversight of MCP response actions conducted by GZA on behalf of Michelin, North America at the former Uniroyal site.*

**March 29, 2011 – Chicopee, MA** – MassDevelopment has released an additional \$400,000 in grant funds from the State's Brownfield Redevelopment Fund for continued environmental testing and cleanup efforts at both the former Uniroyal and Facemate sites. Efforts at the Facemate site include response actions that will allow redevelopment including an Older Adult Community Center that received approval for partial funding at the City Council meeting on February 15, 2011. Additional testing and cleanup efforts shall be undertaken at the Facemate site during the warmer months with completion anticipated before the end of the year. Supplemental testing follows the removal of three underground storage tanks (USTs) that had once been used to store No. 6 fuel oil when Facemate Corporation was operational. Corporate Environmental Advisors, Inc. (CEA) of West Boylston, Massachusetts is close to completing the UST removal work. Mayor Bissonnette said, "This is the next step in the process of eliminating barriers to private investment at the site."

Funding will also be used for the review and oversight of MCP response actions being conducted at the Uniroyal site by GZA on behalf of the Michelin, North America.

In 2009, the Uniroyal/Facemate Site was selected by MassDevelopment as a recipient of the Brownfield Redevelopment Priority Project Designation. With this designation, MassDevelopment pledged to make available \$2 million in grant funds for assessment and cleanup activities. With the approval of an additional \$400,000 for the above mentioned projects, MassDevelopment's commitment to the Uniroyal/Facemate redevelopment project reached a total of \$900,000. Mayor Bissonnette stated, "Our collaboration with MassDevelopment shows the results that can be achieved when state and local officials take a team approach to solving local problems."

The following list highlights a number of completed and on-going activities on the Uniroyal/Facemate (RiverMills) site.

#### **COMPLETED PROJECTS AS OF: MARCH 29, 2011**

- ***Demolition*** – Uniroyal Buildings 1-6; Completed August 2010;
- ***Hazardous Building Materials Study*** – Facemate Buildings 1 & 5; Completed September 2010
- ***Brownfield Support Team Selection*** – Uniroyal/Facemate Site selected for inclusion in the Lieutenant Governor's Brownfield Support Team Initiative, aimed at increasing collaboration between state, federal and local authorities to streamline the redevelopment of brownfields across the state.
- ***Phase I Environmental Review*** – Orwatt Property; completed March 2011.
- ***Section 108 Loan program application*** – Application submitted for \$5 million HUD section 108 loan for site preparation and construction of an Older Adult Community Center on the Facemate site.
- ***Transformer removal*** – The final phase of the Uniroyal transformer removal project was completed March 24 with the removal of the final transformer from building 29.

#### **ON-GOING PROJECTS AS OF: MARCH 29, 2011**

- ***Phase II Environmental Review*** – Facemate Property; on-going;
- ***EPA Brownfields Clean-up Grant Proposal*** – Facemate Buildings 1, 5 & 12; Proposal submitted to the US EPA for grant funds targeted for use in abating hazardous materials prior to demolition activities. Announcement of awards expected in April 2011. Response to findings of the Phase II Building Assessment and Hazardous Materials Study. Total possible funds from the grant: \$240,000;
- ***Rails to Trails Project*** – Rail line from Grape Street to the Uniroyal/Facemate Site & Rail on Uniroyal/Facemate; Iron Horse Preservation Society to removal all rails and ties from the area leaving behind a prepared trail base. Planned for completion in April 2011.
- ***Hazardous Building Materials Study*** – Facemate Buildings 1, 3, 5, 8, 12; on-going.
- ***UST Removal Project*** – The Facemate underground storage tank removal project is underway with two tanks removed from the site and work underway to remove the final tank from the site.
- ***Solicitation for Demolition Consultant Services*** – City is reviewing proposals design services for demolition of buildings on the Facemate site. Site clearance will allow for the development of an Older Adult Community Center and other private investment on the site.